Docket No.: 10473-784

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Dennis G. THIBEDEAU, et al.

Serial No.: 09/888

Group Art Unit: 2858

Filed: June 26, 2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For:

ALTERNATOR TESTING METHOD AND SYSTEM USING RIPPLE

DETECTION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows. A mark-up version showing changes made is also attached hereto.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 6 as follows:

Testing system 300 has a microcontroller 302 and a display 304. Microcontroller 302 processes data and generates control signals. Display 304 is means for providing a communication interface with a user and may be an LCD screen, a LED indicator or the like. Microcontroller 302 may control a switch device 324, such as an FET switch, that selectively couples a load 322 to the alternator, so that the alternator can be tested under load. Load 322 may be a Michrome coil or other resistive wire or the like, or other form